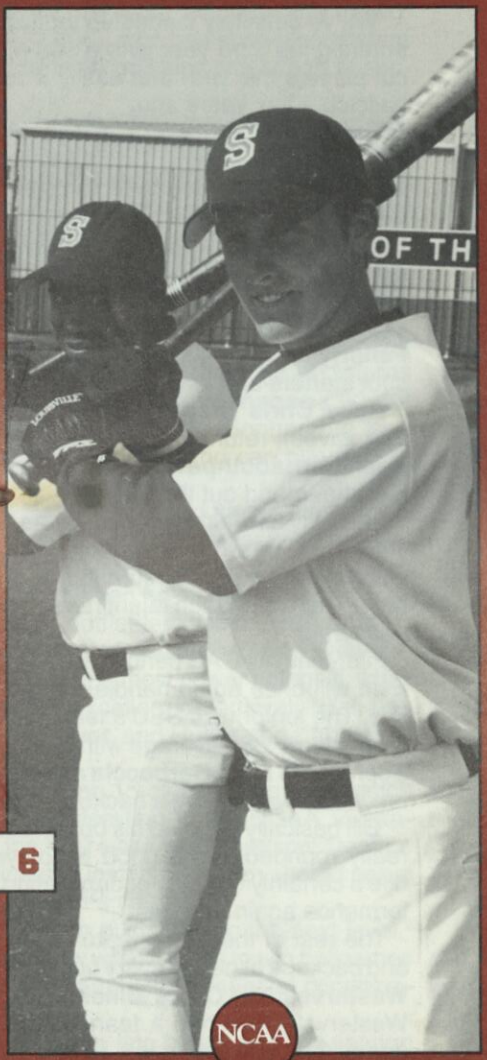
SALISBURY STATE UNIVERSITY

SEAGULLS



1996

NCAA

BASEBALL

1996 SEASON OUTLOOK

Expectations are high as the Sea Gulls begin a new baseball season. Coach **Deane Deshon** welcomes back 19 letterwinners from last year's 22-15 squad, which won the Capital Athletic Conference championship. SSU registered its first winning season since 1989 and its first 20-win season since 1985 as Deshon was named CAC Coach of the Year.

"We've definitely loaded up the talent," said Deshon, entering his 33rd year with a 509-416-12 record. "We cut players this year that easily would have made the ballclub a few years ago."

The core of last year's strong pitching staff spearheads the returning nucleus. Sophomore **Brian McClellan**, an all-South Region selectee and first-team CAC player, leads the starting staff. McClellan finished 8-2 with a 3.04 ERA and four complete games in 1995. Juniors **Jeff Wilson** (2-4, 4.55 ERA) and **Mark Truszkowski** (4-4, 4.55 ERA) also return to the starting staff. Veterans **Keith Zukowski** (2-3) and **Colin Faherty** and transfer **Scott Turner** are all projected as spot starters and long relievers.

Junior **Chris Yagesh**, who appeared in 15 games (1-1, 4 saves), returns to his role as the closer. A pair of freshmen southpaws, **Joel Covington** and **Nick Barulic**, round out the staff.

"Virtually all the returnees pitched well last year," said Deshon. "The experience from last year and their development during the summer and offseason should help. There's enough talent here for us to have a pretty good staff."

First-team all-CAC performer and team co-captain **Bill Ewe** will once again handle most of the catching duties. The junior was SSU's team MVP last spring after producing a .388 average with four homers and 23 RBI. Sophomore **Brad Barbaccia** and freshman **Shea Radish** will serve as Ewe's backups.

"Bill basically doubled his output as a sophomore and really rounded into a good ballplayer," said Deshon. "He's certainly capable of duplicating his offensive performance again this year."

The rest of the infield features experienced starters and backups at nearly every position. Sophomore **Dave Westervelt** and **Cable Miller** return at the hot corner. Westervelt, who had a team-high 12 extra base hits and a .345 average in '95, is projected as the primary starter. Miller, a first-team all-South Region selectee, will see spot duty at third while also serving as the team's designated hitter. Miller finished with a .376 average, three homers and a team-high 27 RBI last season.

The team's only senior, co-captain **Damon Garrison**, is back for his third season as the starter at shortstop. Garrison hit. 305 last year with four home runs, 20 RBI and 20 walks. Junior **Jeff Purgeson**, a flawless fielder who handled 42 chances without an error last spring, is also available.

Sophomore **Shane Norgard** (.250, 5 doubles) returns as the starter at second base and also carries the unofficial designation as the vocal leader in the infield. Junior **Bill Fennelly** (.296), who has shown consistent improvement each season, will also see action at second.

First base is the only position without a returning veteran. Sophomore transfer **Scott Parker**, who also plays on the Sea Gull football team, is the projected starter. Two other newcomers, freshman **Brian Burden** and sophomore **Chris Vaccaro**, are also available.

"We're fortunate to have so many players back in the infield," said Deshon. "There's good stability there and I think we should be a good defensive ballclub."

The outfield features two returning starters among the top six players. Junior **Ted Godfrey** (.323) returns to center field and junior **Matt Criscimagna** (.309, 2 HR, 7 doubles) will be in right field. Sophomore **Ken Hess** (.250) is the other veteran and can play any of the three spots.

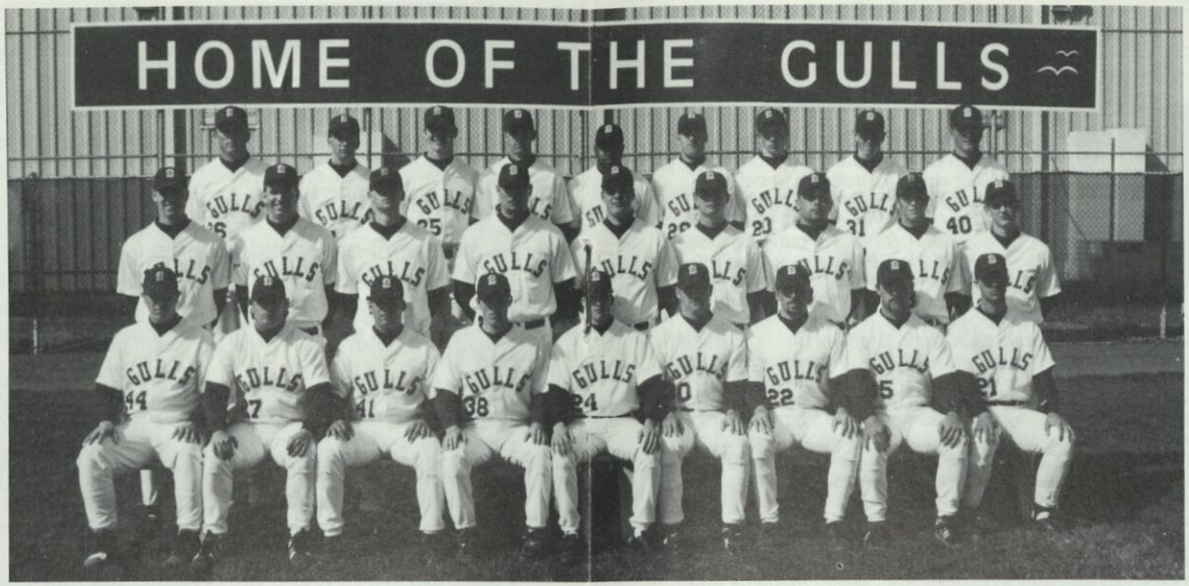
Freshman **Scott Hall** is projected as the starting left fielder. First-year sophomore **Walt Huber** will also play. **Nick Barulic**, who will see duty on the mound, is also available in the outfield when he's not pitching.

"I think this group of outfielders will be very productive both offensively and defensively," said Deshon. "Criscimagna might offer the most power potential, while Godfrey and Hess are excellent defensively. Hall has the tools to be a fine player, and Huber and Barulic will also get playing time."

The Sea Gulls, who won 15 of 18 during one stretch last year, were in consideration for an NCAA Tournament bid through the final week of the season. Deshon feels that the success of last year's team should serve as a catalyst for this year's squad.

"This team is looking to push itself to the next level," said Deshon. "They know what it takes to win ballgames and they have worked hard in the offseason conditioning and weight programs.

"I expect that they will go into ballgames this season expecting to win, not hoping to win. Defending the conference championship is certainly a goal and winning 20 games again is realistic. I believe we have a good enough ballclub to do that and the potential to win 25-plus games."



1996 ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos	Yr	Hgt	Wgt	B	T	Hometown	High School
19	Scott Parker	1B	So	6-0	211	R	R	Egg Harbor Twshp, NJ	Egg Harbor
20	Bill Fennelly	2B	Jr	5-9	142	R	R	Baldwin, NY	Baldwin
21	Brian Burden	1B	Fr	6-0	202	R	R	Gambrills, MD	Arundel
22	Brad Barbaccia	C	So	5-11	192	R	R	Gaithersburg, MD	Watkins Mill
23	Joel Covington	P	Fr	5-11	165	L	L	Pocomoke, MD	Pocomoke
24	Ted Godfrey	OF	Jr	5-10	173	R	R	Wilmington, DE	Salesianum
25	Walt Huber	OF	So	5-10	169	R	R	Cinnaminson, NJ	Cinnaminson
26	Keith Zukowski	P	Jr	5-11	153	R	R	Greenbelt, MD	Eleanor Roosevelt
27	Scott Turner	P	Jr	5-9	196	L	L	Gaithersburg, MD	Gaithersburg
28	Nick Barulic	P-OF	Fr	5-9	143	L	L	Seaside Park, NJ	Central Regional
29	Damon Garrison	SS	Sr	5-8	176	R	R	Tasley, VA	Nandua
30	Matt Criscimagna	OF	Jr	5-11	206	R	R	Annapolis, MD	Annapolis
31	Ken Hess	OF	So	5-9	164	L	L	Brookfield, CT	Brookfield
32	Shane Norgard	2B	So	5-11	142	R	R	Severna Park, MD	Severna Park
33	Chris Barulic	P	Fr	5-9	145	R	R	Seaside Park, NJ	Central Regional
34	Mark Truszkowski	P	Jr	6-2	188	R	R	Baltimore, MD	Overlea
35	Cable Miller	DH	So	5-11	218	L	R	Joppa, MD	Joppatowne
37	Brian McClellan	P	So	6-4	190	R	R	Frederick, MD	Frederick
38	Bill Ewe	C	Jr	5-10	158	R	R	Pitman, NJ	Pitman
39	Jeff Wilson	P	Jr	6-2	188	R	R	Linwood, NJ	Mainland
41	Shea Radish	C	Fr	5-10	210	R	R	Millsboro, DE	Sussex Central
42	Scott Hall	OF	Fr	6-3	187	R	R	Wayne, PA	Conestoga
43	Jeff Purgason	SS	Jr	6-2	154	R	R	Preston, MD	Col. Richardson
44	Colin Faherty	P	Jr	6-0	225	R	R	Ringoes, NJ	Hunterdon Central
45	Chris Yagesh	P	Jr	6-3	216	L	L	Gaithersburg, MD	Quince Orchard
46	Dave Westervelt	3B	So	6-3	221	R	R	Bel Air, MD	John Carroll

COACHING STAFF

Deane Deshon
Head Coach
Now in his 33rd year at Salisbury State University, Head Coach Deane Deshon is the 12th winningest active Division III baseball coach. Deshon reached a unique milestone among active coaches last season when he won his 500th career game. He brings a 509-416-12 record into the 1996 season. Deshon has guided his teams to winning records in 20 seasons, including 14 of the last 20 years, and his teams have averaged 18 wins per season since 1976.

Salisbury State won the Capital Athletic Conference championship last spring en route to a 22-15 campaign which also saw the veteran skipper honored as the CAC Coach of the Year. Prior to joining the CAC in 1994, the Sea Gulls captured the Eastern States Athletic Conference championship four times in seven years before the conference ceased operations in 1993.

SSU has visited the NCAA Tournament five times since 1977, and appeared in the NAIA district championships four times, 1969-72. Deshon's most successful squad may have been the 1977 team, which finished 33-11 and third place in the NCAA Regionals. Deshon was honored as the NCAA Division III Coach of the Year that season.

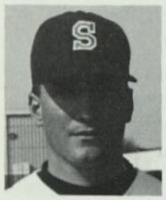
Deshon received bachelor's degrees from Maine Maritime and the University of Maine, and has a master's from the University of Maryland. He also served as co-captain of the 1960 University of Maine baseball team.

Coach Deshon's Milestone Wins

#1	March 23, 1964	SSU 6, Barrington (RI) College 5
#100	April 24, 1973	SSU 7, Eastern (PA) College 2
#200	March 28, 1978	SSU 7, Springfield (MA) College 4
#300	May 8, 1982	SSU 7, York (PA) College 2
#400	April 6, 1988	SSU 13, Christopher Newport (VA) 3
#450	March 18, 1992	SSU 4, St. Mary's (MD) College 1
#500	April 4, 1995	SSU 6, Catholic University 5

Robb Disbennett
Assistant Coach
Now in his third season as Deshon's assistant, Robb Disbennett is no stranger to Salisbury State University athletics. The District Heights, MD, native was a talented multi-sport prep ballplayer who was recruited by Deshon but chose to bypass college baseball. He subsequently became an all-American quarterback for the Sea Gulls.

The 1986 alumnus serves primarily as infield and conditioning coach and mans the first-base coaching box during games. He also provides valuable recruiting support for the program. In addition to his baseball duties, Disbennett serves as an assistant coach for the Sea Gull football team and teaches in SSU's Department of Physical Education.



Mark Heiser
Assistant Coach
A three-year letterwinner as a starting pitcher at Coastal Carolina University, Mark Heiser is serving in his first seasonas a Sea Gull assistant. A native of Fairfax, VA, Heiser played on three Big South Conference championship squads and helped the Chants advance to the NCAA Regionals three times. He will serve primarily as the pitching coach for this year's Sea Gull squad.

In addition to his baseball duties, Heiser is an assistant in SSU's Center for Personal and Professional Development. Heiser's wife, Kristin, is also sister of Anaheim Ducks goalie Guy Hebert.

SSU RECORDBOOK

SEASON

Hitting			
At-bats	166	Joe Frisbee	1977
Runs	54	Jay Wilson	1985
Hits	68	Jesse Plummer	1977
Total Bases	97	Robin Knight	1976
Doubles	19	Bryan Perry	1978
Triples	6	Jesse Plummer	1977
Home Runs	10	Robin Knight	1976
RBI	52	Jay Wilson	1985
Walks	39	Dave Funk	1977
Average	.475	Bruce Matthews	1988
Stolen Bases	42	Mike Shockley	1990
Pitching			
Wins	12	Brian Brushe	1977
Appearances	21	Jim Whaley	1978
Most Innings	99	Brian Brushe	1977
ERA	1.99	Bob Caples	1981
Winning Pct.	.916	Bruce Lane (11-1)	1976

CAREER

Hitting			
At-bats	555	Dave Funk	1976-79
Runs	147	Dave Funk	1976-79
Hits	199	Dave Funk	1976-79
Total Bases	284	Dave Funk	1976-79
Doubles	47	Bryan Perry	1975-78
Triples	11	Jesse Plummer	1975-77
Home Runs	21	Robin Knight	1975-78
		Jeff Brubaker	1981-84
RBI	129	Robin Knight	1975-78
Walks	90	Dave Funk	1976-79
Average	.420	Bruce Matthews	1985-88
Stolen Bases	125	Chuck Hebron	1978-81
Pitching			
Wins	28	Wyatt Kerley	1976-79
Most Innings	302	Brian Brushe	1975-78
Strikeouts	322	Phil Briggs	1966-69

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION · FOUNDED 1906 ®
NCAA

1996 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
FEBRUARY			
28	Christopher Newport	Newport News, VA	3:00
MARCH			
2	Rutgers Camden	Salisbury, MD	1:00
3	*St. Mary's	Salisbury, MD	1:00
6	Trenton State	Salisbury, MD	3:00
8	*Gallaudet	Salisbury, MD	3:00
9	*York	Salisbury, MD	1:00
12	*Catholic	Washington, D.C.	3:00
14	Wilmington	Salisbury, MD	3:00
16	Mary Washington (2)	Fredericksburg, VA	1:00
17	Hampden Sydney	Farmville, VA	1:00
18	Guilford	Greensboro, NC	3:00
19	Methodist	Fayetteville, NC	3:00
20	Virginia Wesleyan	Virginia Beach, VA	3:00
25	*Gallaudet	Washington, D.C.	3:00
27	Chowan	Salisbury, MD	3:00
28	Wesley	Salisbury, MD	3:00
30	*York	York, PA	1:00
APRIL			
1	SUNY-Binghamton	Salisbury, MD	3:00
4	*Catholic	Salisbury, MD	3:00
6	Wilmington	New Castle, DE	1:00
9	*St. Mary's	St. Mary's City, MD	3:00
13	Christopher Newport	Salisbury, MD	1:00
16	Virginia Wesleyan	Salisbury, MD	3:00
18-21	CAC Tournament	TBA	TBA
22	Randolph Macon	Salisbury, MD	3:00
23	Rowan	Glassboro, NJ	3:30
26	Wesley	Dover, DE	3:00
27	Shenandoah (2)	Winchester, VA	12:30
28	Allentown (2)	Allentown, PA	1:00
30	Rutgers Camden	Camden, NJ	3:30
May			
4	Frostburg (2)	Frederick, MD	5:15
11	Gull Classic Tournament	Salisbury, MD	TBD
12	Gull Classic Tournament (NC Wesleyan, Old Westbury, University MD Eastern Shore)	Salisbury, MD	TBD

*Capital Athletic Conference

QUICK FACTS

Location ..... Salisbury, MD
Founded 1925
Enrollment 6,000
Interim President ..... Dr. K. Nelson Butler
Colors ..... Maroon & Gold
Nickname ..... Sea Gulls
Affiliation ..... NCAA Division III
Conference ..... Capital Athletic (CAC)
Home Field ..... Sea Gull Field
Surface ..... Astroturf (infield)
..... Grass (outfield)
Press Box Phone ..... none
Director of Athletics ..... Dr. Michael Vienna
Athletics Dept. Phone ..... (410) 548-3503
Athletics Dept. Fax ..... (410) 546-2639
Sports Information Director ..... Paul Ohanian
Sports Info. Phone ..... (410) 543-6016
Sports Info. Fax ..... (410) 543-6068
Head Coach ..... Deane Deshon
Alma Mater ..... University of Maine '60
Record at School/Years ..... 509-416-12 (33rd year)
Career Record ..... same
Coach's Phone ..... (410) 543-6345
Assistant Coaches ..... Robb Disbennett, Mark Heiser
1995 Record 22-15
Lettermen Returning/Lost 19/7
Starters Returning/Lost ..... 6/2 (non-pitchers)

Top Returnees

Bill Ewe ..... Jr ..... C ..... .388, 4 HR, 23 RBI, 40 hits
Cable Miller ..... So ..... DH ..... .376, 8 doubles, 27 RBI
Dave Westervelt ..... So ..... 3B ..... .345,8 doubles, 23 RBI
Brian McClellan ..... So ..... P ..... 8-2, 3.04 ERA, 58 K, 21 BB